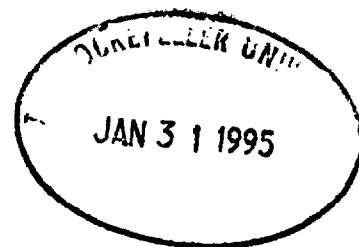


Department of Biology



January 23, 1995

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021-6399

Dear Josh:


Thanks for your note of last week. The reference to the Rockefeller Institute in the second-to-last paragraph of the review of Kuhl's book is a misprint: it was the Rockefeller Foundation (as stated correctly a couple of lines up) that funded some German eugenic work in the 1930's. That's the kind of error that unfortunately slipped through everybody's proofreading eyes. Sorry, I did not intend to conflate the two organizations.

Thanks also for your two reprints. I enjoyed reading both. The one on what the double helix has meant to biomedical science is particularly interesting precisely because of the basic question you pose: why did it take 25 years for knowledge of DNA structure to translate into medical practice? Your answers will help me as I redo my chapter on the history of biochemical and molecular genetics for a revision of Life Science in the Twentieth Century. I did not address the question of the relevance of molecular genetics to medicine in first two editions, but now think it is an important issue to raise from today's perspective.

I just received a copy of Jan Sapp's new book last week. I haven't had a chance to read it yet, but am looking forward to it immensely. He had a great time during his stay in your lab, and speaks very fondly of the "Rockefeller Year" every time we talk.

Hope all is well. I look forward to seeing you in the not-too-distant future.

Sincerely,


Garland E. Allen
Professor of Biology